



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Public Hearing – March 8, 2013  
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Daniel C. Esty  
Presented by Deputy Commissioner Macky McCleary

**Raised House Bill No. 6540 - An Act Concerning The Sale of Certain Beverages In Mixed Material Containers**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised House Bill 6540 - An Act Concerning The Sale of Certain Beverages In Mixed Material Containers. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) offers the following testimony.

DEEP opposes the changes proposed in Raised House Bill 6540. The current law prevents the sale of beverages in certain beverage containers because such containers are composed of a mixture of materials that cannot be recycled. The proposal in Raised Bill 6540 would exclude malt beverages from this law, and by doing so – and we understand that the proponents of this bill agree - would permit malt beverages to be sold in containers that *cannot be recycled*. The containers from such beverages would have to be thrown away.

This proposal runs against the many years DEEP has spent promoting and encouraging recycling, rather than disposing of waste. And while DEEP supports innovation and change in the use of beverage containers, it is unable to support a proposal that is clearly anti-recycling, that encourages that use of containers that cannot be recycled. This proposal is not consistent with Connecticut's existing Solid Waste Management Plan and runs counter to the current waste transformation efforts of DEEP that are aimed at *increasing* the rate of recycling and reuse in the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact DEEP's legislative liaison, Robert LaFrance, at 860-424-3401 or [Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov).